GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1606
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
EPIDEMIC DISEASES
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that there is a sharp increase in the cases of Malaria, Filaria, brain-fever, Jaundice and diarrhoea in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to send Central team to Orissa to assess the number of persons affected due to these ailments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action plan formulated by the Union Government to control such diseases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Number of cases of Malaria, Filariasis, Brain Fever (Japanese Encephalitis), Jaundice and Diarrhoeal diseases in the country as reported by the State Health authorities during the last 3 years have been as under:-

Name of Diseases	Year		
	1997	1998	1999
Malaria	2660057	2222748	2284713
Filaria	21269	26142	16643
Brain Fever (JE)	2516	2120	3428
Jaundice	133594	113257	130153
Diarrhoea	8065688	9634787	8053896

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(b)&(c):Teams from Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) have been periodically visiting Orissa to asses the Malaria situation and provide on the spot technical guidance, training etc. During the current year so far 14 visits to Orissa have been undertaken by the Officers of the Directorate of NAMP.The State is endemic to Malaria and Filaria.Japanese Encephalitis is not a problem in Orissa. During the current year, 15 districts of the State have shown increase in Malaria incidence. Further teams from the Directorate of NAMP and National Institute of Communicable Diseases visited Orissa during May-June, 2000 for assessment of the Malaria situation in KBK districts. The reports of the teams, inter-alia, suggested strengthening of process of early case detection and prompt treatment of Malaria cases in these districts, arrangements for training for the Medical Officers and Pharmacists and introduction of Vector Control measures including bio-environmental measures, inter-sectoral co-ordination and intensification of IEC activities.

(d) For prevention and control of Malaria, Filaria, Brain Fever (Japanese Encephalitis) and Diarrhoeal disease, steps taken include:- Malaria: Intensification of early ;detection and prompt treatment of Malaria including treatment of complicated cases by newer drugs. Intensification of vector control measures through prioritization of areas for selective spray with appropriate insecticides and alternative and integrated vector control methods. Introduction of newer insecticides like Synthetic Pyrethroids for selective use as per technical requirements. Intensification of Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities for public awareness and community participation. Institutional and management capacity building, manpower development through intensive re-orientation training programmes at all levels and efficient Management Information System

(MIS).Implementation of an Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP) with World Bank support under the National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) since September, 1997, covering 1045 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in 100 predominantly tribal highly Malaria-endemic districts of 7 peninsular States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and 19 cities/towns having high endemicity of malaria in these States and the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for intensification of Malaria control activities by way of additional inputs through a mix of interventions. Providing 100% Central Assistance to the 7 North Eastern States since December, 1994 under

NMEP.
Filaria:
Recurrent anti-larval measures.
Biological control of mosquito breeding with larvivorous fishes.
Anti-parasitic measures by detecting micro-filaria carriers and treatment with Di-ethyl-carbamazine (DEC).
Referral of acute and chronic filaria cases to Hospitals for effective management.

IEC activities to increase public awareness.
Pilot Project to study the feasibility and impact of single dose annual mass DEC therapy in 13 districts.
Training of Medical and Para-Medical Staff in 3 Training Institutions under NICD.
Community-based clinical trial has been taken up to study the impact of co-administration of tablet Albendazole with DEC on human health.

Brain Fever (Japanese Encephalitis):

Prevention and control of Brain Fever (Japanese Encephalitis) are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) closely monitors incidence of J.E. and also provides material assistance (essentially insecticides) as per need to manage and control JE outbreaks. Besides, technical guidance is also provided to the States by the Dte. of NAMP and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) for preventing incidence of JE and managing outbreaks. Further, orientation training on clinical management of JE for Primary Health Centres (PHC)/District Medical Officers is conducted with the objective of early case detection and prevention of mortality. Government of India also facilitates supply of JE vaccine from its Central Research Institute, Kasauli to States which are in need of such vaccine.

Diarrhoeal Diseases:

Lifting of water samples for testing.
Intensification of surveillance activities.
Distribution of Chlorine Tablets.
Distribution of ORS packets.
Imparting of Health Education to the community through Hand-bills, posters, group discussion, Media etc.
Mobile clinics to treat the poor in under-served areas.

In addition, a National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases has been undertaken in45 districts in the country on pilot basis.